



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

OFFICE OF STATE ETHICS

GOVERNOR'S BILL No. 6386 **AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

OFFICE OF STATE ETHICS' STATEMENT REGARDING SECTION 9, LINES 871 THROUGH 881 ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE PUBLIC HEARING MARCH 14, 2011

The Office of State Ethics ("OSE") respectfully submits the following comments regarding section 9, lines 871 through 881, of Governor's Bill No. 6386, An Act Establishing Department of Energy and Environmental Protection.

Currently, Public Utility Control Authority ("PUCA") commissioners are required to file personal financial disclosures with the Secretary of the State. The OSE would like to bring to the attention of the General Assembly's Environment Committee a proposal contained in section 26 of Raised Bill No. 6272, An Act Concerning Revisions to the State Codes of Ethics, which provides for a more streamlined process for filing financial statements, by including the disclosures of PUCA commissioners under section 1-83 of the general statutes, the provision dealing with Statements of Financial Interests.

PUCA commissioners already file their annual Statements of Financial Interests ("SFI"), pursuant to section 1-83 of the general statutes. However, the disclosures that are to be submitted by the PUCA commissioners to the Secretary of the State, pursuant to subsection (d) of section 16-2 of general statutes, are very general and the information required for disclosure is already covered in greater detail on the SFI. This proposal would reduce the number of redundant financial filings.

Therefore, to avoid duplicative filings, the OSE recommends that section 9, lines 871 through 881, of Governor's Bill No. 6386, be amended to incorporate the language of section 26 of Raised Bill No. 6272, An Act Concerning Revisions to the State Codes of Ethics, as follows:

Subsection (d) of section 16-2 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

(d) The commissioners of the authority shall serve full time and shall [make full public disclosure of their assets, liabilities and income at the time of their appointment, and thereafter each member of the authority shall make such disclosure on or before July thirtieth of each year of such member's term, and shall file such disclosure with the office of the Secretary of the State] file a statement of financial

interests with the Office of State Ethics in accordance with section 1-83, as amended by this act. Each commissioner shall receive annually a salary equal to that established for management pay plan salary group seventy-five by the Commissioner of Administrative Services, except that the chairperson shall receive annually a salary equal to that established for management pay plan salary group seventy-seven.

For further information please contact: Carol Carson, Executive Director, Office of State Ethics, or Peter Lewandowski, Staff Counsel and Legislative Liaison, Office of State Ethics, at 860-263-2400; 860-263-2402 (fax).